

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY



RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Human Services provides exceptional programs and services to community members of all ages, some of which are described below, but all of which are contained in the Human Services *Community Resource Catalog*. You can learn about housing, financial and health services, recreation opportunities, and more. Pick up your catalog at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road or Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South, or find it online.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: RESOURCE CATALOG.

For more information, call Human Services at 952-563-8733 or TTY 952-563-8740. To sign up for e-mail updates, go to our website, click on [E-Subscribe](#) and subscribe to “Human Services.”

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HUMAN SERVICES.

FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICES
HUMAN SERVICES OFFERS INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Tax assistance will be provided through April 14 to individuals who meet income-qualifying guidelines of \$30,000 or less and \$50,000 or less for families. Help is provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

AccountAbility Minnesota will be available to provide tax assistance to qualifying individuals.

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays through April 14.
Time: 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.
When: Saturdays through April 16.
Time: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm.

AARP Tax-Aide will provide free tax preparation services for middle to low income taxpayers, with special attention to people age 60 and older.

When: Mondays and Tuesdays through April 12.
Time: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Taxpayers with complex tax returns are advised to seek paid tax assistance.

Human Services is partnering with AccountAbility Minnesota and AARP Tax-Aide to make these programs available.

For more information, contact Human Services.



TAX FORMS AVAILABLE

Federal tax forms are available to be photocopied at Creekside.



THIRD ANNUAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP RETREAT
GROWING TOWARD GREATNESS

Get together with your peers for the Third Annual Youth Leadership Retreat, Friday, February 18, 3 - 8 p.m., at Civic Plaza.

Sponsored by the Human Rights Commission, the event features keynote speaker Omékongo Luhaka wa Dibinga, a motivational speaker who will engage and inspire retreat guests to realize their dreams and grow toward their greatness.

For more information, call 952-563-8733.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: YOUTH RETREAT.



A SWEET TREAT
CELEBRATE VALENTINE’S DAY AT CREEKSIDE

Join Human Services for a Valentine’s Day party, Thursday, February 10, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., at Creekside Community Center.

A delicious lunch will be provided with entertainment by The Renegades.

To register, call 952-563-4948 or 952-563-4944 V/TTY, e-mail reservations@ci.bloomington.mn.us or visit Human Services at Creekside.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER
CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY AND SERVE OTHERS

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.

– Anne Frank

Whether it is important to you to solve a community problem, advance a worthy cause or develop as a person, volunteering offers countless benefits.

Don’t wait to improve your community. By becoming a Bloomington volunteer, in exchange for the gift of your time and expertise, you will meet new people, build your résumé, serve the community and feel good about yourself.

Not sure where to volunteer your time? Human Services offers a variety of opportunities to work with youth, families, multicultural communities, seniors 55 and older, and people with disabilities. The possibilities are endless.

To get involved, visit the City’s website.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: VOLUNTEERING.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT
WITH JAPANESE CULTURE, CUISINE AND MORE

Enjoy a deliciously authentic Japanese meal, live entertainment and a silent auction at the annual Taste of Japan dinner, Saturday, March 19, at the Bloomington Hilton, 3900 American Boulevard West. During this year’s silent auction you will have the chance to bid on more than 100 items.

This annual event is a fundraiser for Bloomington’s Sister City Organization (BSCO). Tickets are \$55 for adults and \$25 for students. BSCO members pay \$50 for adults and \$20 for students. For information, visit www.bloomington-izumi.org.



GOING FOR THE GOLD
BLOOMINGTON RUNNERS COMPETE IN JAPAN

Bloomington residents Darrell Christensen and Rachael Moench will soon be packing their bags for Izumi City, Japan, where they will compete in the 2011 Senshu International Marathon on Sunday, February 20.

Christensen began his running career after he retired in 2000. Since then, he has completed 14 marathons and doesn’t show signs of stopping.

Rachael Moench recently competed in the Twin Cities Marathon. This is her first international marathon.

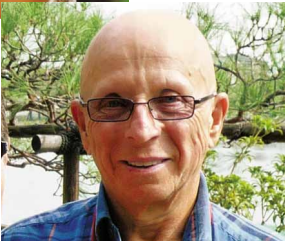
Each year, two runners are selected by the Bloomington Sister City Organization as part of a cultural exchange between Bloomington and Izumi City, Japan. Since 1997, the program has sent 20 Bloomington runners to Japan. The 26.2-mile international marathon invites runners from all over the world to compete.

For more information on the marathon exchange program, call 952-563-8713, TTY 952-563-8740 or visit www.bloomington-izumi.org.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: SENSHU MARATHON.



Rachael Moench, left. Daniell Christensen, below.



GLOBAL VENDORS SOUGHT
CELEBRATION BRINGS WORLD CULTURES TOGETHER

World cultural crafters, artists, entertainers and food vendors are needed for the 4th Annual Global Celebration. This cultural kaleidoscope of entertainment, exhibits, food and children’s activities takes place at Civic Plaza, Saturday, June 25.

For more information or to obtain a vendor application call 952-563-8733 or TTY 952-563-8740.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: GLOBAL CELEBRATION.

